(a) whether the Union Government have received reports about casualties during Oral Pulse Polio campaign held recently in the country specially in West Bengal; and

(b) if so, the details and corrective measures taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) Casualties due to administration of Oral Polio Vaccine during Pulse Polio Immunization have not been reported so far. The newspaper report regarding deaths after Pulse Polio Immunisation in a village in West Bengal was investigated by the State Government and was found not to be related to administration of Oral Polio Vaccine.

(b) Does not arise.

**Ezhimala Naval Academy**

267. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN :
SHRI T. GOVINDAN :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the extent of work that has been completed on the Naval Academy at Ezhimala;

(b) the quantum of money allocated and spent hitherto on the project so far; and

(c) the steps taken to complete the work during the current year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) The civil works regarding renovation and addition/alteration of the existing buildings etc. have commenced. The electricity, water, roads and dredging to be provided by the State Government of Kerala is in the final stages of completion.

(b) The approved cost of the project is Rs. 166.94 crores and a sum of Rs. 244.07 lakhs has been spent till date.

(c) Naval Academy Project, Ezhimala is planned to be executed over a period of 8 years from 1995 to 2002.

**A.P. School Health Project**

268. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Overseas Development Administration has decided to stop assistance to Andhra Pradesh School Health Project because of "non performance" on the part of the State Administration; and

(b) if so, the main reasons for not implementing the project efficiently ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Population Growth in A.P.**

269. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh has registered a slight drop in fertility rate but has not prevented its population touching eight crores;

(b) if so, whether the present birth rate compounded by the tender age of women at marriage has been the cause of population increase in the State;

(c) if so, whether the present rapid growth of population will have serious implications on socio-economic development;

(d) if so, whether the family planning programme in the State has also not been fully implemented;

(e) if so, whether the Union Government have directed the State Government to fully implement family planning programme and have also decided to allocate more funds for the purpose; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) The Total Fertility Rate for Andhra Pradesh has declined from 4.0 in 1981 to 3.0 in 1991 and further declined to 2.7 in 1995, as per data from Sample Registration System. The estimated population for 1996 is 72.16 million.

(b) to (f) The rate of growth of population in Andhra Pradesh is much lower than national average. All States are given funds according to approved pattern of assistance. All States are also advised from time to time to improve their performance.

**Expenditure on Celebrations of Republic Day**

270. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount spent on the celebrations of Republic Day;

(b) the amount earned on account of sale of tickets, advertisement etc. for the purpose; and

(c) the steps, the Government propose to take to minimise the expenditure on such celebrations ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) Republic Day Celebrations are held all over the country. The arrangements in this regard are made by the concerned Central Ministries/ Departments, State Governments, Union Territory Administrations, Public Sector Undertakings, local bodies and other agencies. As the details of expenditure on various items borne by the concerned agencies, are not collected and exhibited under one head, it is not possible to assess the amount spent on the celebrations of Republic Day.